stations in Tamil Nadu and Akashvani' from other stations/centres in the country is considered appropriate.

Violation of Wildlife (Protection) Act by Film Censorship

918. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the provisions laid down in the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, Wildlife (Protection) Act and the guidelines issued by Government have been blatantly flouted by the film censorship;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from certain organisations about the alleged cruelty towards the leopard which was shown in a film after stitching its mouth and removing its nails; and

(c) if so, what are the facts in this regard and what steps Government and the Central Board of Film Certification have taken to see that the animals are neither killed nor injured for the sake of film production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) All films presented to the Central Board of Film Certification are examined in the light of the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, the rules framed thereunder and the guidelines issued by the Central Government under section 5B(2) of the Act. The guidelines, *inter alia*, provide that the Board shall ensure that scenes showing cruelty to, or abuse of, animals are not presented needlessly. Certification of film is not regulated under the provisions of any other Act.

(b) and (c) Representations have been received from an organisation named "Beauty Without Cruelty International" of Pune and Bombay Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The film referred to therein, viz.,. BETAJ BADSHAH (Hindi), has been presented to the Board for certification. The Board has not yet taken a final decision regarding its certification. As the guidelines referred to in (a) make clear, no scenes showing cruelty to or abuse of animals can be presented needlessly; the Board will certainly follow these guidelines when certifying the film.

New Satellite TV Management Scheme

919. SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have chalked out a new Satellite Television Management Scheme; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have decided to auction ten per cent time slots on satellite Channel to private sector; and

(c) if so, what are the terms and conditions for the participants in such auction purchase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) There is no such scheme. However, the channels of Doordarshan have been restructured from 1st February, 1994, for better channel management.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Only ten per cent of the time of the satellite channels of Doordarshan has been earmarked for auction of time slots in deference to the observations made in a judgement delivered by the Delhi High Court striking down the scheme for allotment of time slots on first-come-first-served basis. Actual auctioning would, however, depend upon the outcome of the appeal preferred by the Government in the Supreme Court against the said judgement.